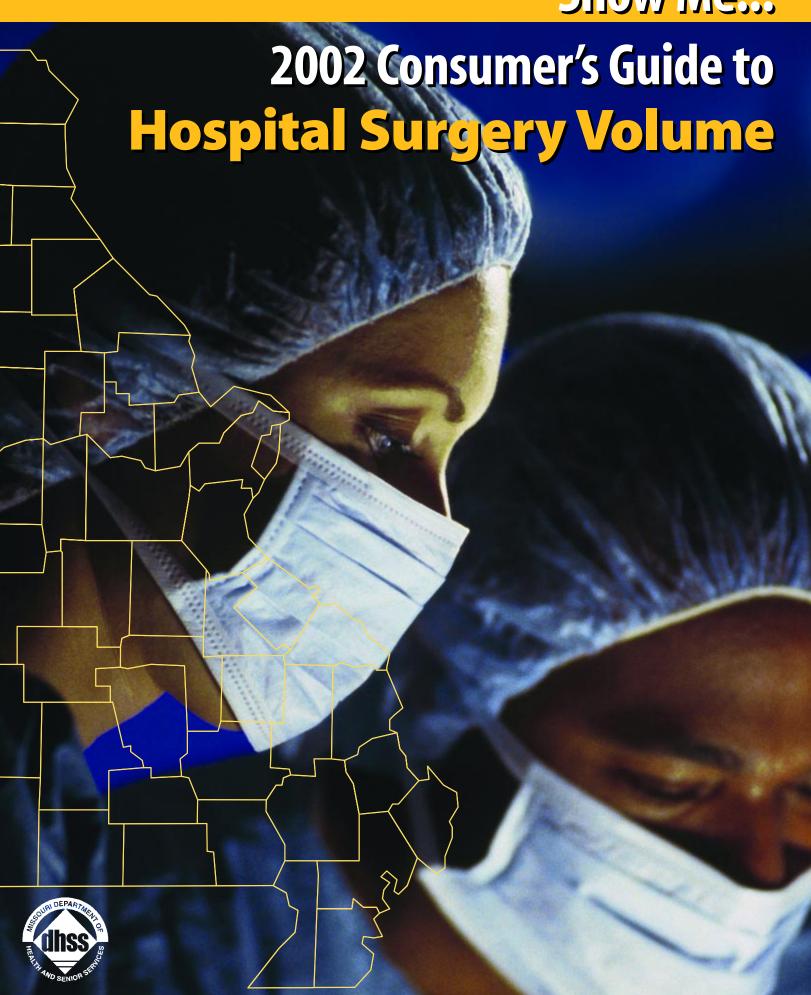
## Show Me...



## Welcome...

As part of its mission to protect and promote the health of Missourians, the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is pleased to issue this consumer guide. Inside are reports on the volume of various surgical procedures performed in Missouri hospitals. This information can assist health care consumers and purchasers in making informed choices regarding these surgical procedures.

We believe that consumers have a right to know as much as possible about the services from health care providers and about the quality of these services. Empowered with this information we can all contribute to developing and providing the highest quality of health care for the citizens of Missouri.

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The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has attempted to publish accurate information based upon common definitions. The data reported in this brochure are based on hospital discharge data reported from 1998 to 2000. Hospitals were given an opportunity to review and correct the data presented. Other corrections or suggestions should be forwarded to the Center for Health Information Management and Evaluation, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, PO Box 570, Jefferson City, MO 65102. Our telephone number is (573) 526-2812.

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# Show Me... 2002 Consumer's Guide to Hospital Surgery Volume

Over the last several decades a steady stream of research has found a relationship between the quality of care for selected surgical procedures and the number, or volume, of procedures performed. Recently, the prestigious Institute of Medicine (IOM) convened a group to review the current understanding of this relationship. The report states the following:

"An association between higher volumes and better outcomes has been well-documented for certain types of health care. Some health care purchasers are using these findings to refer patients to higher-volume settings for selected procedures. The evidence prompted the National Cancer Center Policy Board to recommend that cancer patients in need of highly complex surgical procedures go to higher-volume facilities for care (IOM, 1999). Despite considerable evidence of a volume-outcome relationship, many questions remain about the nature of the relationship, the processes of care that might explain it, and its implication for health policy." [IOM, 2000]

The link between procedure volume and outcome is not always found. In fact, at times one study may contradict the findings of another study. Why does this happen? Sometimes these differences are due to the quality of the research conducted. Other times, the differences may relate to different methods of study, or even the population studied. Regardless, there is sufficient evidence to say that for some procedures a relationship exists between the volume of procedures performed and the quality of the outcomes for those procedures.

## Does "practice make perfect?" Or does "perfect make practice?"

While studies have been conducted on the relationship between procedure volume and quality outcomes, yet another set of questions has been raised: Does "practice make perfect"? or does "perfect make practice"? In other words, when a relationship is found between procedure volume and the quality of outcomes for that procedure, what does it really mean? Is it true that the more you do anything, whether it is music or medicine, the better you perform? Or rather, is it true that "success breeds success"? That is, when an organization is known for a good product or good service it gets more business.

Applied in this instance, hospitals that perform certain surgeries well will have more patients seeking those surgeries at those hospitals. Both points-of-view make sense, and to some extent, the exact nature of the relationship between the number of procedures performed and quality is not known. But either way, for the procedures chosen for this guide there is a relationship and that relationship should inform your decisions about health care services and surgeries.

...there is sufficient evidence to say
that for some procedures
a relationship exists between
the volume of procedures performed
and the quality of the outcomes
for those procedures.

# What Makes a Difference - Surgeon, Hospital or Both?

There is an additional issue that must be considered and several questions that should be taken into account in using this report. What is more important, the volume of procedures performed by the surgeon, the volume of procedures performed in the hospital, or both? The skill and experience of the physician are, of course, highly important to the quality of care and "good outcomes." However while the individual surgeon performs surgery, a surgical team (or at least a surgical assistant) assists with the procedure. In addition there are a wide array of hospital services and personnel that impact on the surgical outcome that may not be evident or considered.

For example, while a patient may undergo a procedure performed in the most skillful way by a surgeon and the surgical team, post-operative care of a surgical incision may result in a preventable infection if infection control techniques are not followed. Such practices may result in less-than-optimum outcomes, though the quality of the surgery was excellent. Those aspects of care provided under the supervision of the hospital, as well as the performance of the surgeon, are important to quality care.

While data on procedure volume by physician are not available for analysis and publication, it is possible to examine patient data that are routinely reported by hospitals to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, to determine the facility-level volume for procedures. This report focuses on the volume of selected procedures, as reported by general, acute care hospitals across the state.

## Keep in mind – our medical knowledge is always expanding!

As part of its public health mission, the Department of Health and Senior Services feels that evidence-based information disclosures in consumer guides are in the public interest. In selecting the procedures reviewed for this report, we took into account a number of research studies, the strength of the evidence, the source of the study, and input from national and state experts. In addition, a statewide advisory committee reviewed the development of this report. Over time, new information may provide further insight on the volume to outcome relationship for these procedures. The information contained in this report is the best available at this time.

Comparing hospitals to make a decision on where you should have a procedure performed can be a difficult and complex decision. An informed health care consumer gathers all the relevant information available to make these important decisions. Additional information, such as the hospital's proximity to one's home or the home of relatives and friends, travel time, insurance coverage, cost, alternative new technologies, the hospital and surgeon's reputation in the community are examples of the many factors that consumers may also want to take into account. This report, when used in conjunction with these other considerations, and discussed with a trusted personal physician, can help you make an informed health care decision for yourself or a family member.

Those aspects of care provided under the supervision of the hospital, as well as the performance of the surgeon, are important to quality care.

# What Do the Procedure Pages Tell Me?

Hospitals are identified in a procedure table by major population centers within each region of the state. Hospitals not located in a designated population center are listed alphabetically under the heading Rest of Region.

Average Annual Volume indicates the average number of procedures performed per year at these hospitals during the calendar years 1998 through 2000. It was calculated by adding the number of procedures performed during the three-year period and dividing by three. Hospitals that performed less, on average, than one procedure per year are not displayed.

Volume Thresholds for hospitals and surgeons are reported in blue text after a description of the procedure. Compare a hospital's average annual procedure volume, from the table, to these recommended hospital thresholds. Keep in mind that volume below the recommended level does not in itself indicate poor quality of care. The Department did not evaluate each hospital's surgery outcomes. Here, we only report evidence-based volume thresholds from reputable research studies. References for these thresholds can be found in the bibliography.

Procedure-Specific Questions suggest surgery related information that is useful for you to know. Listen carefully to the responses of both your primary doctor and the surgeon. Write down their answers or have them written for you.

#### How was this report developed?

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, in consultation with an advisory committee, reviewed research studies that address the relationship between volume of procedure and quality of care for each of the procedures presented in this guide. Most of these studies suggest that the more a hospital or physician performs each of these particular procedures, the better the patient outcome. Patient outcomes were indicated as mortality (death) rates, complications after surgery, and/or re-hospitalization (readmission) rates after discharge.

Data used in this guide come from the most recent annual hospital discharge records reported to the Department as required by Administrative Rule 19-10-33.010. Information on surgery volume is primarily useful to the patient who has time to discuss pending procedures with their physician and other health care professionals.

#### Questions to Discuss with Your Doctor and Surgeon

Remember that you need to develop a partnership with your physician to assist you in making more informed decisions about your medical care. A key to developing that partnership is to discuss your care and ask questions. When your primary care doctor refers you to a surgeon there are also a number of questions that you need to consider asking. These include the following questions.

- What are the risks involved with this procedure?
- ◆ Why do I need to have this procedure?
- ◆ How long will I have to stay in the hospital after the surgery?
- ◆ How long will I take to recover?
- ♦ How soon will I be able to return to work?
- Will I have to follow a special diet?
- Will I have to change my physical activity after my surgery?

- ◆ Will I need to take medication after my surgery?
- ◆ How many of these surgeries have you done?
- ◆ Who will actually perform my surgery?
- Who will be assisting the doctor in the operating room?
- ◆ How will I be prepared for my surgery?
- ◆ How should I prepare for the surgery?
- How many of these surgeries have been performed in this hospital?

## Carotid Endarterectomy

Carotid endarterectomy is an operation in which the surgeon removes an obstruction in the carotid (neck) artery caused by hardening of the arteries (atherosclerosis). This operation is performed to prevent stroke. A stroke is a cardiovascular disease that affects the blood vessels supplying blood to the brain. It occurs when a blood vessel bringing oxygen and nutrients to the brain bursts or is clogged by a blood clot or some other particle. Because of this rupture or blockage, part of the brain doesn't get the blood flow it needs which kills the nerve cells in the affected area of the brain. Once these cells die, they cannot be replaced and the part of the brain controlled by these cells cannot function.

Carotid artery problems become more common as people age. People at risk for carotid artery problems are those over age 65 (especially people who smoke) and those who already have poor circulation in the legs or their heart.

Carotid endarterectomy by an experienced surgeon is a very effective way to reduce the risk of stroke. During the procedure, the obstruction in the artery is removed.

Research suggests that hospitals that perform 100 or more of these operations per year will have better patient outcomes than hospitals that perform less than 100 of these operations per year. The optimum (or best) threshold for surgeons has been identified at 6 carotid endarterectomies per year. However, some articles have suggested that for both physicians and hospitals, a low volume of carotid endarterectomies is a range of 1 to 12 per year, a mid volume is a range of 13 to 49 per year, and a high volume is over 50 per year.

[See page 20 for references, numbers 7, 8, 14 and 24.]

Region	Average		
Subregion	Annual		
Hospital	Volume		
Central / Northeastern Region			
Columbia			
Boone Hospital Center	171		
Columbia Regional Hospital	13		
University Hospitals and Clinics	90		
Jefferson City			
Capital Region Medical Center	22		
St. Mary's Health Center	62		
Rest of Area			
Audrain Medical Center	22		
Bothwell Regional Health Center	44		
Fitzgibbon Hospital	4		
Hannibal Regional Hospital	49		
Lake Regional Health System	22		
Northeast Regional Medical Center	64		
Kansas City / Western Region			
Clay / Platte Counties			
Liberty Hospital	77		
North Kansas City Hospital	139		
Saint Luke's Northland Hospital	9		
Eastern Jackson County			
Independence Regional Health Center	62		
Lees Summit Hospital	7		
Medical Center of Independence	25		
St. Mary's Hospital of Blue Springs	4		
Kansas City (Jackson County)			
Baptist Medical Center	55		
Research Medical Center	146		
Saint Joseph Health Center	69		
Saint Luke's Hospital	212		
Truman Medical Center-Hospital Hill	12		
Rest of Area			
Cameron Community Hospital	6		
Heartland Hospital East & West	94		

Region Sub	oregion Hospital	Average Annual Volume
Southeas	tern Region	
Cap	e Girardeau	
	Southeast Missouri Hospital	90
	Saint Francis Medical Center	120
Res	t of Area	
	Missouri Delta Medical Center	13
Southwe	stern Region	
Jop	lin	
	Freeman Health System	115
	St. John's Regional Medical Center	314
Spr	ingfield	
	Lester E. Cox Medical Center South	247
	St. John's Regional Health Center	210
Res	t of Area	
	Freeman Neosho Hospital	1
	McCune-Brooks Hospital	5
	Skaggs Community Health Center	1
St Louis /	Eastern Region	
Far	mington	
	Mineral Area Regional Medical Center	1
	Parkland Health Center	15
St. Charles County		
	Barnes-Jewish St. Peter's Hospital	8
	Crossroads Regional Hospital	1
	SSM St. Joseph Health Center	77
	St. Joseph Hospital West	4

Region Sub	region Hospital	Average Annual Volume	
St. L	ouis City / County		
	Barnes-Jewish Hospital	250	
	Christian Hospital Northeast-Northwest	83	
	Depaul Health Center	56	
	Des Peres Hospital	45	
	Forest Park Hospital	31	
	Missouri Baptist Medical Center	185	
	Saint Louis University Hospital	38	
	Southpointe Hospital	6	
	SSM St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood	49	
	SSM St. Mary's Health Center	81	
	St. Alexius Brothers' Hospital	14	
	St. Anthony's Medical Center	161	
	St. John's Mercy Medical Center	104	
	St. Luke's Hospital	81	
Rest of A	Rest of Area		
	Jefferson Memorial Hospital	29	
	Lincoln County Memorial Hospital	2	
	St. John's Mercy Hospital Washington	55	

#### Procedure-Specific Questions

- ◆ Is my procedure serious enough that I need to have a carotid endarterectomy?
- ◆ Is there a chance that I could still have a stroke after the operation is completed?
- ◆ After the procedure, will I have to be on medication? If yes, how long will I have to take this medication and what are the side effects of these medications?

## Coronary Artery Bypass Graft

Coronary artery bypass surgery, also referred to by its initials as "CABG," is a common surgical procedure used to correct severe blockages of arteries in the heart (coronary artery disease). In coronary artery disease, the blood vessels that nourish the heart muscle become narrowed or completely blocked, causing the amount of blood flow through them to decrease. The purpose of coronary artery bypass graft surgery is to improve the blood supply to an area of the heart that has been deprived of adequate circulation. Veins from other parts of the body are grafted onto the diseased coronary artery above and below the blockage. This graft restores blood circulation to the damaged area.

Coronary artery bypass surgery is actually two surgeries performed at the same time. One incision is made in the leg to remove a vein. This vein is used as a graft, or conduit, to create a new coronary artery. Another incision is made in the chest to allow the surgeon to reach the heart. The length and number of incisions depend on how many bypasses are needed.

One end of the vein graft is sewn in the side of the aorta, the large artery of the heart. The other end of the graft is sewn below the area of the blocked coronary artery. This vein actually detours, or "bypasses," the blood around the obstruction to restore good blood flow to the area. The graft is usually taken from the saphenous vein in the leg, an internal mammary vein or a radial artery. The two veins are typically used because they are long enough. Since the legs and arms have numerous other blood vessels, these veins are not missed and circulation is still good after surgery. Coronary artery bypass surgery generally takes from 3 to 6 hours, depending on how many bypasses are needed.

Studies indicate that a hospital that performs more than 100 CABG surgeries per year may provide better quality of care. According to the American College of Cardiology / American Heart Association Task Force Subcommittee on Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery, a recommended yearly minimum of 200 to 300 operations should be performed by hospitals caring for patients with heart disease, and 100 to 150 minimum per surgeon; Health Canada recommends 150, and a London, England independent report recommends a workload of 200 to 250.

[See page 20 for references, numbers 1, 5, 7, 35 and 39.]

Denien	A
Region Subregion	Average Annual
Hospital	Volume
Позриш	volune
Central / Northeastern Region	
Columbia	
Boone Hospital Center	378
Columbia Regional Hospital	5
University Hospitals and Clinics	352
Jefferson City	
Capital Region Medical Center	155
St. Mary's Health Center	213
Rest of Area	
Lake Regional Health System	82
Kansas City / Western Region	
Clay / Platte Counties	
North Kansas City Hospital	228
Eastern Jackson County	
Independence Regional Health Center	151
Kansas City (Jackson County)	
Baptist Medical Center	108
Research Medical Center	300
Saint Joseph Health Center	220
Saint Luke's Hospital	779
Rest of Area	
Heartland Regional Medical Center	228
Southeastern Region	
Cape Girardeau	
Saint Francis Medical Center	274
Southeast Missouri Hospital	360

Region Subregion	Average Annual
Hospital	Volume
Southwestern Region	
Joplin	
Freeman Health System	290
St. John's Regional Medical Center Joplin	396
Springfield	
Lester E. Cox Medical Center South	483
St. John's Regional Health Center	856
St Louis / Eastern Region	
St. Charles County	
SSM St. Joseph Health Center	225
St. Louis City / County	
Barnes-Jewish Hospital	621
Christian Hospital Northeast-Northwest	521
Depaul Health Center	246
Des Peres Hospital	142
Forest Park Hospital	99
Missouri Baptist Medical Center	658
Saint Louis University Hospital	225
SSM St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood	147
SSM St. Mary's Health Center	215
St. Anthony's Medical Center	493
St. John's Mercy Medical Center	533
St. Luke's Hospital	509
Rest of Area	
Jefferson Memorial Hospital	69



#### Procedure-Specific Questions

- What are the risks involved with having a Coronary Artery Bypass Graft?
- Will I have to change my physical activity after my surgery?
- Will it be okay to engage in sexual intercourse after my surgery?

## Heart Transplant

Heart transplants are the third most common transplant operations in the United States. There are over 1,500 cases per year. A healthy heart is obtained from a donor who has suffered brain death but remains on life-support. The healthy heart is then transported in a special solution that preserves the organ.

While the patient is deep asleep and pain-free (general anesthesia), an incision is made through the breastbone (sternum). The patient's blood is re-routed through tubes to a heart-lung bypass machine to keep the blood oxygen-rich and circulating. The patient's diseased heart is removed and the donor heart is stitched in place.

A heart transplant may be recommended for heart failure caused by:

- Coronary artery disease
- Cardiomyopathy (thickening of the heart walls)
- Heart valve disease with congestive heart failure
- Severe congenital heart disease

Heart transplant surgery is not recommended for patients who have:

- Kidney, lung, or liver disease
- Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM)
- Other life-threatening diseases

Research suggests that hospitals that perform 9 or more heart transplants per year have better patient outcomes than those who do not perform these amounts. However, Medicare requires that hospitals perform 12 or more heart transplants per year for reimbursement. In addition, the National Task Force on Organ Transplantation has established the volume threshold for heart transplants as 12 or more per year.

[See page 20 for references, numbers 7, 9 and 17.]

Region Subregion Hospital	Average Annual Volume
Central / Northeastern Region	
Columbia	
University Hospitals and Clinics	10
Kansas City / Western Region	
Kansas City (Jackson County)	
Saint Luke's Hospital	18
St Louis / Eastern Region	
St. Louis City / County	
Barnes-Jewish Hospital	16
Saint Louis University Hospital	14

#### Procedure-Specific Questions

- ♦ Who can get a new heart?
- How does a donor heart get to me?
- How will I know when a donor heart is ready for me?
- What happens just before, during and after my heart surgery?
- What will I go through before I can go home with my new heart?

## Pediatric Cardiac Surgery

Pediatric cardiac surgery is performed on infants and children who have congenital (existing at the time of birth) heart defects. There are many types of congenital heart defects and not all of them require surgery. However, there are some that are quite severe causing your child to have the following symptoms: growth retardation, decreased exercise tolerance, increase in the size of the heart muscle, cyanosis (blue color observed in the skin and mucous membranes), shortness of breath and difficulty breathing, and increased heart rate.

Research studies suggest that hospitals that perform more than 100 pediatric cardiac surgeries per year have better outcomes than hospitals and surgeons that perform fewer than 100 cases per year. For surgeons, it is suggested that they perform a minimum of 75 or more pediatric cardiac surgeries per year. For all cardiac surgery the Cardiac Care Network of Ontario (CCN) Consensus Panel on Cardiac Surgical Services recommends an annual minimum of 150 procedures per surgeon and 500 per center.

[See page 20 for references, numbers 1, 2, 7 and 16.]

#### Region Average Subregion Annual Hospital Volume Central / Northeastern Region Columbia University Hospitals and Clinics 17 Kansas City / Western Region **Kansas City (Jackson County)** 230 Children's Mercy Hospital Saint Luke's Hospital St Louis / Eastern Region St. Louis City / County Christian Hospital Northeast-Northwest Saint Louis University Hospital SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital 101 291 St. Louis Children's Hospital



#### Procedure-Specific Questions

- Are there any other options besides surgery to treat my child's congenital heart defect?
- How long can we wait before the surgery needs to be done?
- What should I do to prepare my child for this type of surgery?
- Will I be allowed to stay with my child in the hospital?
- Will my child have to have other operations after this one in order to continue repair of the congenital heart defect?

## Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty (PTCA or Coronary Angioplasty)

Fatty deposits (plaques) that have accumulated on the inside of the coronary arteries can narrow these passages considerably, causing blood flow to the heart to be dangerously reduced. Providing adequate circulation to the heart muscle is important to prevent a heart attack. Percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) can improve the blood supply. They are performed on people who have chest pain (angina) and sometimes on those who have had a heart attack.

PTCA is done during cardiac catheterization. A thin, plastic tube, called a catheter, is inserted into a blood vessel in either the right groin or the right arm. Once it is positioned into the coronary artery near the narrowed portion, a smaller catheter with a deflated balloon at its tip is threaded through the cardiac catheter. When the balloon catheter reaches the narrowed portion, the balloon is inflated to flatten the fatty deposit against the artery wall. In other instances, the balloon is used to deliver a "stent" for this same purpose. The balloon is inflated, the stent expands and then remains in the artery after the balloon is removed.

The procedure is monitored on an x-ray screen that magnifies the images so the doctor can observe when the artery is open sufficiently. Once the artery is opened and blood is flowing more freely through the vessel, the balloon catheter is removed.

Research studies, as well as recommendations of the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association, indicate that a hospital perform a minimum of 200 PTCAs per year and that surgeons perform 125 during the training period and a minimum of 75 PTCAs per year. However, some research studies have suggested that hospitals that perform 400 or more procedures per year have better outcomes than hospitals who perform fewer than 400 cases per year. It is important to note that a recent study indicates that while "the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association guidelines have minimum volume standards that remain at 200 procedures annually... even lower minimum volume standards may be justifiable in less populated areas, where the alternative is no access to angioplasty at all."

Region Subregion Hospital	Average Annual Volume
entral / Northeastern Region	
Columbia	1005
Boone Hospital Center	1005
Columbia Regional Hospital	6
University Hospitals and Clinics	444
Jefferson City	
Capital Region Medical Center	217
St. Mary's Health Center	399
Rest of Area	
Audrain Medical Center	4
Bothwell Regional Health Center	1
Lake Regional Health System	192
ansas City / Western Region	
Clay / Platte Counties	
North Kansas City Hospital	675
Eastern Jackson County	
Independence Regional Health Center	239
Medical Center of Independence	39
Kansas City (Jackson County)	
Baptist Medical Center	252
Research Medical Center	503
Saint Joseph Health Center	573
Saint Luke's Hospital	1681
Rest of Area	
Heartland Regional Medical Center	458

Region Subregion		Average Annual
Hospital		Volume
Southeastern Regio		
Cape Girardea		
	ncis Medical Center	225
	: Missouri Hospital	395
outhwestern Regi	on	
Joplin		
	Health System	593
St. John's	Regional Medical Center	843
Springfield		
Lester E. C	ox Medical Center North	1
Lester E. C	ox Medical Center South	891
St. John's	Regional Health Center	1539
<b>Rest of Area</b>		
Skaggs Co	mmunity Health Center	89
st Louis / Eastern R	egion	
St. Charles Co	ınty	
SSM St. Jo	seph Health Center	251
St. Louis City /	County	
Barnes-Je	wish Hospital	1216
Christian	Hospital Northeast-Northwest	746
Depaul He	ealth Center	292
Des Peres	Hospital	245
Forest Par	k Hospital	186
Missouri E	Baptist Medical Center	1027
Saint Loui	s University Hospital	222
SSM St. Jo	seph Hospital of Kirkwood	214
SSM St. N	ary's Health Center	520
St. Anthor	ny's Medical Center	1126
St. John's	Mercy Medical Center	494
St. Luke's	Hospital	524
Rest of A	rea	
lofforcon	Memorial Hospital	136



#### Procedure-Specific Questions

- How do I know if I am a candidate for PTCA?
- How safe is PTCA compared to other methods of opening up my coronary artery? How effective is PTCA? Will it ever have to be
- repeated at some point?

## Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Repair

An aneurysm is an enlargement or bulging of an artery. All artery walls are made of three layers. There are outer, middle, and inner layers. The enlargement or bulging occurs at a weak area of the middle layer of an artery wall. An aneurysm occurs anywhere along the length of the aorta (the large blood vessel that carries blood away from the heart to all parts of the body). This aneurysm can be located in either the chest or the abdomen (stomach area). However, it occurs four times more frequently in the abdomen.

Aortic aneurysms most frequently occur in white men between 50 and 60 years of age. But women are also at risk for developing abdominal aortic aneurysm. The most common cause of an aortic aneurysm is partial clogging of the aorta. Other factors that can increase the chances of having an aortic aneurysm include high blood pressure, smoking, and a family history of aortic aneurysm.

The goal of medical management is to prevent rupture (bursting) of the aneurysm. The only effective treatment of an abdominal aortic aneurysm is surgery (abdominal aortic aneurysm repair). During this surgery, the area where the aneurysm is located is clamped off, cut out, and a patch or artificial piece of blood vessel is sewn where the aneurysm was.

Research studies indicate that better outcomes are achieved when the number of elective abdominal aortic aneurysm repair procedures performed per year at a hospital is in the range of 27 or more.

[See page 20 for references, numbers 6, 7, 13, 21, 26, 27, 28 and 32.]

Region Sub	region Hospital	Average Annual Volume
Central /	Northeastern Region	
Colu	ımbia	
	Boone Hospital Center	44
	Columbia Regional Hospital	1
	University Hospitals and Clinics	16
Jeff	erson City	
	Capital Region Medical Center	4
	St. Mary's Health Center	16
Rest	of Area	
	Bothwell Regional Health Center	1
	Hannibal Regional Hospital	2
	Lake Regional Health System	6
	Northeast Regional Medical Center	1
Kansas Ci	ty / Western Region	
Clay	/ Platte Counties	
	Liberty Hospital	9
	North Kansas City Hospital	24
East	ern Jackson County	
	Independence Regional Health Center	9
	Lees Summit Hospital	2
	Medical Center of Independence	2
	St. Mary's Hospital of Blue Springs	1
Kan	sas City (Jackson County)	
	Baptist Medical Center	12
	Research Medical Center	29
	Saint Joseph Health Center	17
	Saint Luke's Hospital	61
	Truman Medical Center-Hospital Hill	1
Rest	of Area	
	Heartland Regional Medical Center	25

#### Procedure-Specific Questions

- ◆ What will happen to me if I do not have my abdominal aortic aneurysm repaired?
- ◆ What is the likelihood that my aneurysm will rupture (burst) if I do not have surgery?
- ◆ If I am very athletic, will I have to reduce my activity level?

Region Subregion	Average Annual	
Hospital	Volume	
Southeastern Region		
Cape Girardeau		
Saint Francis Medical Center	22	
Southeast Missouri Hospital	12	
Poplar Bluff		
Three Rivers Healthcare	1	
Rest of Area		
Missouri Delta Medical Center	2	
Southwestern Region		
Joplin		
Freeman Health System	21	
St. John's Regional Medical Center	50	
Springfield		
Lester E. Cox Medical Center South	43	
St. John's Regional Health Center	43	
Rest of Area		
Skaggs Community Health Center	1	



Region Sub	region Hospital	Average Annual Volume
St Louis /	Eastern Region	
Farr	nington	
	Parkland Health Center	3
St. C	harles County	
	Barnes-Jewish St Peters Hospital	3
	SSM St. Joseph Health Center	16
St. L	ouis City / County	
	Barnes-Jewish Hospital	85
	Christian Hospital Northeast-Northwest	20
	Depaul Health Center	16
	Des Peres Hospital	9
	Forest Park Hospital	5
	Missouri Baptist Medical Center	69
	Saint Louis University Hospital	17
	Southpointe Hospital	1
	SSM St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood	10
	SSM St. Mary's Health Center	15
	St. Alexius Hospital	4
	St. Anthony's Medical Center	27
	St. John's Mercy Medical Center Creve Coeur	33
	St. Luke's Hospital	17
Res	t of Area	
	Jefferson Memorial Hospital	6
	St. John's Mercy Hospital Washington	1

## Lower Extremity Arterial By-Pass

A lower extremity arterial by-pass graft is a surgical procedure used to correct arteriosclerosis of the extremities (legs and feet). Since it is a hardening of the arteries, arteriosclerosis results in decreased blood flow to these areas resulting in pain, especially when walking, numbness, tingling, and weakness. In some severe cases, patients develop an ulcer, or sore, on the leg or foot that doesn't heal. Factors that contribute to this disease include smoking, high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol, a family history of heart or vascular disease, or being overweight.

Lower extremity arterial by-pass grafts are performed only on severe cases where the ability to work or pursue essential activities is affected. In this procedure, a vein graft from another part of the body or a graft made from artificial material is used to create a detour around the blocked artery.

Research studies indicate that low volume hospitals are those that perform fewer than 20 lower extremity arterial by-pass grafts per year.

[See page 20 for references, number 7.]

#### Procedure-Specific Questions

- From what part of my body will the vein graft be taken?
- ◆ If you cannot take a vein graft from my body, what kind of material will you use to make one? How will my body respond to this artificial material?
- ♦ What will my recovery be like?
- Is there a chance that my arteries will harden again?
- Will I be able to exercise vigorously after my surgery?
- Will my pain be alleviated after the surgery is completed?
- Will I be able to resume my normal daily activities after my surgery?

Region Subregion Hospital	Average Annual Volume
Central / Northeastern Region	
Columbia	
Boone Hospital Center	116
Columbia Regional Hospital	4
University Hospitals and Clinics	80
Jefferson City	
Capital Region Medical Center	22
St. Mary's Health Center	37
Rest of Area	
Audrain Medical Center	5
Bothwell Regional Health Center	14
Fitzgibbon Hospital	2
Hannibal Regional Hospital	14
Lake Regional Health System	27
Northeast Regional Medical Center	19
Kansas City / Western Region	
Clay / Platte Counties	
Liberty Hospital	41
North Kansas City Hospital	93
St. Luke's Northland Hospital	5
Eastern Jackson County	
Independence Regional Health Center	29
Lees Summit Hospital	7
Medical Center of Independence	17
St. Mary's Hospital of Blue Springs	6
Kansas City (Jackson County)	
Baptist Medical Center	60
Research Medical Center	142
Saint Joseph Health Center	53
Saint Luke's Hospital	101
Truman Medical Center-Hospital Hill	43
Rest of Area	
Cameron Community Hospital	4
Heartland Regional Medical Center	49

Region Subregion Hospital	Average Annual Volume
Southeastern Region	
Cape Girardeau	
Saint Francis Medical Center	109
Southeast Missouri Hospital	49
Farmington	
Mineral Area Regional Medical Center	3
Parkland Health Center	15
Poplar Bluff	
Three Rivers Healthcare	1
Rest of Area	
Missouri Delta Medical Center	19
Southwestern Region	
Joplin	
Freeman Health System	62
St. John's Regional Medical Center	170
Springfield	
Lester E. Cox Medical Center South	145
St. John's Regional Health Center	85
Rest of Area	
Freeman Neosho Hospital	2
Skaggs Community Health Center	4

Region		Average
Sub	region	Annual
	Hospital	Volume
St Louis /	Eastern Region	
St. C	harles County	
	Barnes-Jewish St. Peter's Hospital	13
	Crossroads Regional Hospital	6
	SSM St. Joseph Health Center	79
	SSM St. Joseph Hospital West	1
St. L	ouis City / County	
	Barnes-Jewish Hospital	328
	Christian Hospital Northeast-Northwest	106
	Depaul Health Center	51
	Des Peres Hospital	21
	Forest Park Hospital	51
	Missouri Baptist Medical Center	179
	Saint Louis University Hospital	56
	Southpointe Hospital	8
	SSM St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood	47
	SSM St. Mary's Health Center	76
	St. Alexius Hospital	14
	St. Anthony's Medical Center	142
	St. John's Mercy Medical Center	160
	St. Luke's Hospital	72
Rest	of Area	
	Jefferson Memorial Hospital	19
	Lincoln County Memorial Hospital	1
	St. John's Mercy Hospital Washington	15



## Cerebral Aneurysm Repair

Cerebral aneurysm is the fourth most frequent cerebrovascular disorder. A cerebral aneurysm is an aneurysm of the brain and it occurs when there is a weakened area in the wall of a blood vessel that causes dilatation (widening). People with cerebral aneurysms can be born with one or develop it later in life. It is estimated that 5% of the population has some type of aneurysm.

Symptoms usually do not appear until complications develop. Bleeding is the most common cause of symptoms. Weakness, numbness, or other loss of nerve function may occur because of pressure from the aneurysm on adjacent brain tissue or because of reduced blood flow caused by a spasm of other blood vessels near a ruptured (burst) aneurysm.

Because symptoms often do not appear until bleeding occurs, cerebral aneurysm may be an emergency condition when it is discovered. The goal of treatment is to control symptoms and prevent further bleeding. Surgery, cerebral aneurysm repair, is the primary treatment for cerebral aneurysm. In order to repair the aneurysm, the doctor will have to perform a craniotomy (cut through the skull). The base of the aneurysm is closed off to prevent blood flow through the aneurysm. Several techniques are available to accomplish this. Clipping involves placing a clip on the neck of the aneurysm. Wrapping involves reinforcement of the weakened arterial wall. Ligation of the neck of the aneurysm involves binding.

Research suggests that a low volume hospital is one that performed less than 30 cerebral aneurysm repairs per year.

[See page 20 for references, numbers 7 and 37.]

#### Procedure-Specific Questions

- Is there a possibility that I may have seizures because of the craniotomy?
- Will my hair have to be shaved for the surgery?
- Will the craniotomy cause me to lose or decrease function of my hands and feet? Will it affect my speech?
- Will I be admitted to the intensive care unit after my surgery?

Region		Average
Subregior Ho	spital	Annual Volume
	heastern Region	10141110
Columbi		
	one Hospital Center	17
	versity Hospitals and Clinics	22
	Western Region	
Clay / Pla	atte Counties	
	rth Kansas City Hospital	2
	Jackson County	
	ependence Regional Health Center	3
	ity (Jackson County)	
	otist Medical Center	3
	earch Medical Center	17
	nt Joseph Health Center	2
	nt Luke's Hospital	16
	man Medical Center-Hospital Hill	1
Rest of A	·	
	artland Regional Medical Center	1
Southeastern	•	'
Cape Gir.		
	arueau nt Francis Medical Center	15
		3
Southwestern	rtheast Missouri Hospital	3
	negion	
Joplin	aman Haalth Custam	
	eman Health System	6 4
	John's Regional Medical Center	4
Springfic		17
	ter E. Cox Medical Center South	17
	lohn's Regional Health Center	19
St Louis / East	_	
	es County	
	A St. Joseph Health Center	5
	City / County	
	nes-Jewish Hospital	68
	istian Hospital Northeast–Northwest	16
	oaul Health Center	6
	est Park Hospital	5
	souri Baptist Medical Center	2
	nt Louis University Hospital	24
	A St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood	3
	M St. Mary's Health Center	7
	Anthony's Medical Center	11
	John's Mercy Medical Center	15
St. l	_uke's Hospital	9

## Esophageal Cancer Surgery

Esophageal cancer usually occurs in individuals 50 years of age or older. It is more commonly found in men and approximately four times more common in African American males than in white males. The two most important risk factors for esophageal cancer are smoking and excessive alcohol intake.

The treatment for esophageal cancer depends on the location of the tumor and whether or not the cancer has spread to other parts of the body (metastasis). Surgical removal, esophageal cancer surgery, and radiation are the two methods used. The best results have been obtained by combining surgery and radiation. If the tumor is in the upper one-third of the esophagus (cervical), radiation will probably be used. However, surgery is usually performed if the tumor is in the lower one-third of the esophagus. This is known as surgically resecting the tumor.

Several types of surgical procedures that can be performed are: (1) removal of part or all of the esophagus (esophagectomy); (2) resection of a portion of the esophagus and connecting (anastomosis) the remaining portion of the stomach (esophagogastrostomy); and (3) resection of a portion of the esophagus and anastomosis of a segment of colon to the remaining portion (esophagoenterestomy). The surgical approaches may be done through the thorax (chest) or using both an abdominal and thoracic approach.

Research suggests that physicians who perform 6 or more of these surgeries per year are considered high volume physicians. Physicians who perform 3 or less per year are considered low volume physicians. Most studies suggest that low hospital volume is less than 7 esophageal cancer surgeries per year. However, a recent study identified high volume hospitals as performing 20 or more procedures per year.

[See page 20 for references, numbers 7, 19, 33, 40, and 41.]

Region Subregion Hospital	Average Annual Volume
Central / Northeastern Region	
Columbia	
Boone Hospital Center	1
University Hospitals and Clir	nics 4
Kansas City / Western Region	
Kansas City (Jackson County)	
Research Medical Center	1
Saint Luke's Hospital	1
Truman Medical Center-Hos	pital Hill 1
Rest of Area	
Heartland Regional Medical	Center 1
Southeastern Region	
Cape Girardeau	
Saint Francis Medical Center	2
Southwestern Region	
Joplin	
Freeman Health System	1
St. John's Regional Medical (	Center 1
St Louis / Eastern Region	
St. Louis City / County	
Barnes-Jewish Hospital	11
Christian Hospital Northeast	
Saint Louis University Hospi	
SSM St. Joseph Hospital of K	
St. Alexius Hospital	1

#### Procedure-Specific Questions

- Will I receive radiation treatment and/or chemotherapy in addition to my surgery?
- ◆ If I need radiation treatments and/or chemotherapy, what are their side effects?
- ◆ Will this surgery impair my speech (make speaking difficult for me)?
- Will this surgery make it difficult for me to breathe?
- ◆ How will I be able to eat? Will a feeding tube be placed into my stomach?
- ◆ If I need a feeding tube, who will take care of it?
- ◆ What will I be able to eat?
- Will I only be able to eat at special times?

## Pancreatic Cancer Surgery

The incidence of pancreatic cancer is increasing, currently the fourth leading cause of death from cancer. It is more common in men over 50 years of age and slightly more common in African American and Jewish people. The cause of cancer of the pancreas remains unknown. However, cigarette smoking (10 to 15 per day) is now firmly established as a significant risk factor in the development of cancer of the pancreas.

The most effective treatment of cancer of the pancreas is surgery. Pancreatic cancer surgery, pancreatic resection, and Whipple's procedure are all surgeries to remove cancer from the pancreas. The most common surgery is Whipple's procedure which involves surgery on portions of the pancreas and stomach, the duodenum, gallbladder, and common bile duct. The pancreatic duct is then connected to the jejunum (an area of the small intestines).

A total pancreatectomy may be required for curing cancer that involves the head of the pancreas. The entire pancreas and the spleen are removed along with regional lymph nodes.

Today it is recognized that the pancreas and its adjacent organs can be removed. However, this is a complicated procedure that produces lifelong side effects involving the endocrine system and can result in significant postoperative complications. Therefore, pancreatic resection is limited to life-threatening conditions such as cancer or severe trauma.

Research suggests that hospitals that perform 5 or more pancreatic cancer surgeries per year have better outcomes than hospitals and surgeons that perform fewer than 5 cases per year.

#### Procedure-Specific Questions

- Are there any other options besides surgery to treat my pancreatic cancer?
- Which type of pancreatic cancer surgery will I need?
- What are the complications that can occur with pancreatic cancer surgery?
- ♦ What are the long-term complications?
- Will I need any other treatments, such as radiation or chemotherapy, when my surgery is completed?
- ◆ Will all of my cancer be gone after surgery?
- How long can I wait before the surgery needs to be done?

(See page 3 for other questions)

Region	Average
Subregion Hospital	Annual Volume
Central / Northeastern Region	Volume
Columbia	
Boone Hospital Center	1
University Hospitals and Clinics	6
Jefferson City	
St. Mary's Health Center	1
Kansas City / Western Region	
Eastern Jackson County	
Independence Regional Health Center	2
Medical Center of Independence	1
Kansas City (Jackson County)	
Baptist Medical Center	2
Research Medical Center	4
Saint Joseph Health Center	2
Saint Luke's Hospital	8
Truman Medical Center-Hospital Hill	2
Rest of Area	
Heartland Regional Medical Center	4
Research Belton Hospital	1
Southeastern Region	
Cape Girardeau	
Southeast Missouri Hospital	1
Southwestern Region	
Joplin	2
Freeman Health System	3
St. John's Regional Medical Center  Springfield	3
Lester E. Cox Medical Centers South	4
St. John's Regional Health Center	1
St Louis / Eastern Region	'
St. Louis City / County	
Barnes-Jewish Hospital	51
Christian Hospital Northeast-Northwest	3
Depaul Health Center	1
Missouri Baptist Medical Center	3
Saint Louis University Hospital	9
SSM St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood	1
SSM St. Mary's Health Center	2
St. Anthony's Medical Center	2
St. John's Mercy Medical Center	3
St. Luke's Hospital	4
Rest of Area	
Jefferson Memorial Hospital	1

[See page 20 for references, numbers 3, 7, 11, 12, 25, 36 and 38.]

## Table of Hospitals

Hospital	Region	Sub-Region
Audrain Medical Center	Central / Northeastern Region	Rest of Area
Baptist Medical Center	Kansas City / Western Region	Kansas City (Jackson County)
Barnes Jewish St. Peters Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Charles County
Barnes-Jewish Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
Boone Hospital Center	Central / Northeastern Region	Columbia
Bothwell Regional Health Center	Central / Northeastern Region	Rest of Area
Cameron Community Hospital	Kansas City / Western Region	Rest of Area
Capital Region Medical Center	Central / Northeastern Region	Jefferson City
Children's Mercy Hospital	Kansas City / Western Region	Kansas City (Jackson County)
Christian Hospital Northeast-Northwest	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
Columbia Regional Hospital	Central / Northeastern Region	Columbia
Crossroads Regional Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Charles County
Depaul Health Center	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
Des Peres Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
Fitzgibbon Hospital	Central / Northeastern Region	Rest of Area
Forest Park Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
Freeman Health System	Southwestern Region	Joplin
Freeman Neosho Hospital	Southwestern Region	Rest of Area
Hannibal Regional Hospital	Central / Northeastern Region	Rest of Area
leartland Regional Medical Center	Kansas City / Western Region	Rest of Area
ndependence Regional Health Center	Kansas City / Western Region	Eastern Jackson County
lefferson Memorial Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	Rest of Area
Lake Regional Health System	Central / Northeastern Region	Rest of Area
Lees Summit Hospital	Kansas City / Western Region	Eastern Jackson County
Lester E. Cox Medical Centers North	Southwestern Region	Springfield
Lester E. Cox Medical Centers South	Southwestern Region	Springfield
Liberty Hospital	Kansas City / Western Region	Clay / Platte Counties
incoln County Memorial Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	Rest of Area
McCune-Brooks Hospital	Southwestern Region	Rest of Area
Medical Center of Independence	Kansas City / Western Region	Eastern Jackson County
Mineral Area Regional Medical Center	St Louis / Eastern Region	Farmington
Missouri Baptist Medical Center	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
Missouri Delta Medical Center	Southeastern Region	Rest of Area
North Kansas City Hospital	Kansas City / Western Region	Clay / Platte Counties
Northeast Regional Medical Center	Central / Northeastern Region	Rest of Area
Parkland Health Center	St Louis / Eastern Region	Farmington
Research Belton Hospital	Kansas City / Western Region	Rest of Area
Research Medical Center	Kansas City / Western Region	Kansas City (Jackson County)
Saint Francis Medical Center	Southeastern Region	Cape Girardeau
Saint Joseph Health Center	Kansas City / Western Region	Kansas City (Jackson County)
Saint Louis University Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
Saint Luke's Hospital	Kansas City / Western Region	Kansas City (Jackson County)
Gaint Luke's Northland Hospital	Kansas City / Western Region	Clay Platte Counties
Skaggs Community Health Center	Southwestern Region	Rest of Area
Southeast Missouri Hospital	Southeastern Region	Cape Girardeau
Southpointe Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
SSM St. Joseph Health Center	St Louis / Eastern Region	• •
•		St. Charles County St. Louis City / County
SSM St. Joseph Hospital Of Kirkwood	St Louis / Eastern Region	, ,
SSM St. Joseph Hospital West	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Charles County
SSM St. Mary's Health Center	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
St. Alexius Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
it. Anthony's Medical Center	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
t. John's Mercy Hospital Washington	St Louis / Eastern Region	Rest of Area
t. John's Mercy Medical Center	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
t. John's Regional Health Center	Southwestern Region	Springfield 
St. John's Regional Medical Center	Southwestern Region	Joplin
st. Louis Children's Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
St. Luke's Hospital	St Louis / Eastern Region	St. Louis City / County
St. Mary's Health Center	Central / Northeastern Region	Jefferson City
St. Mary's Hospital of Blue Springs	Kansas City / Western Region	Eastern Jackson County
Three Rivers Healthcare	Southeastern Region	Poplar Bluff
Fruman Medical Center-Hospital Hill	Kansas City / Western Region	Kansas City (Jackson County)

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